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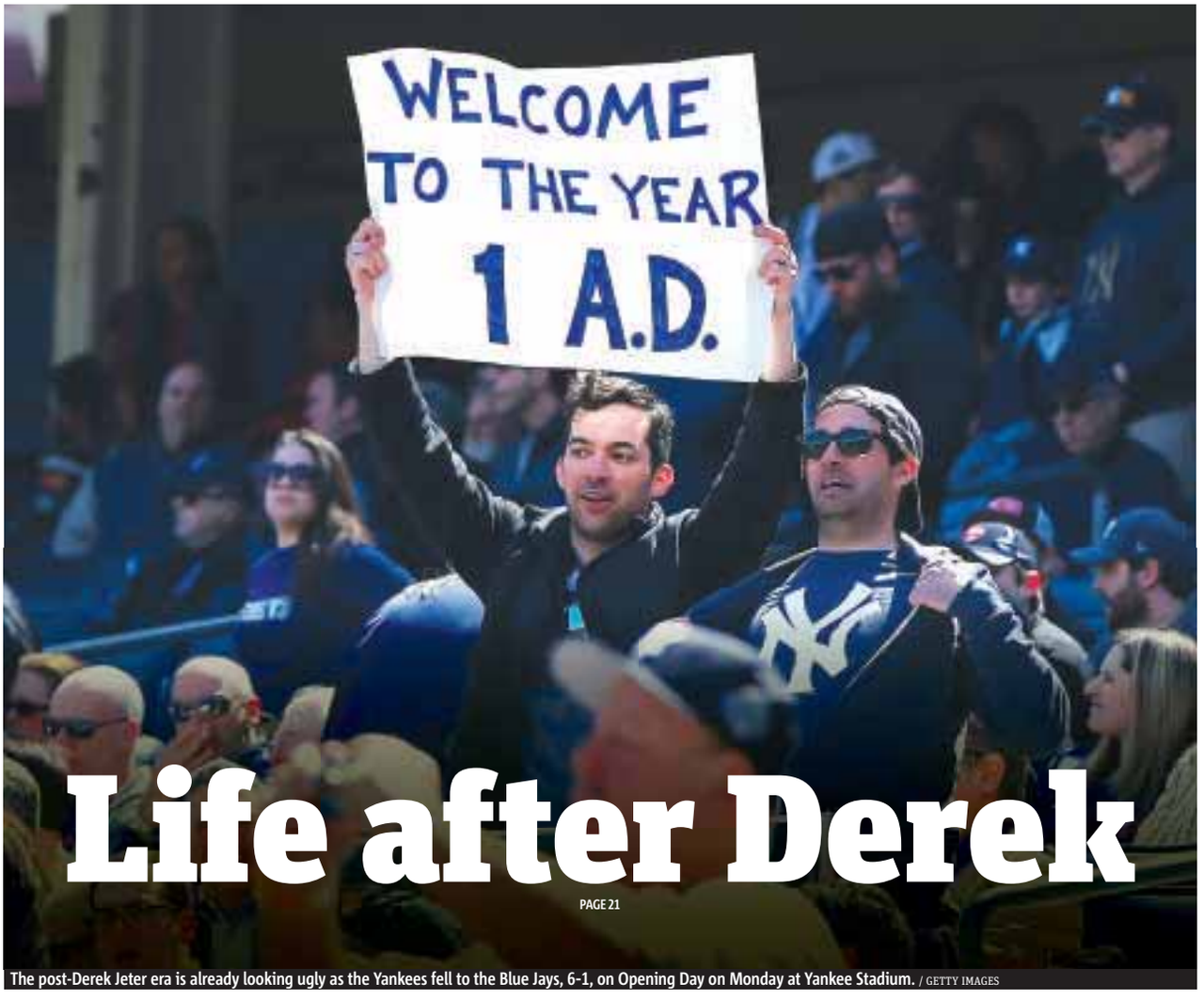
Tuesday, April 7, 2015 **www.metro.us | t: MetroNewYork | f: MetroNewYork**

Beating video bad for biz

Community. Flatbush business owners say they've lost customers after a violent video shot at a local McDonald's went viral. PAGE 02



Life after Derek

PAGE 21

The post-Derek Jeter era is already looking ugly as the Yankees fell to the Blue Jays, 6-1, on Opening Day on Monday at Yankee Stadium. / GETTY IMAGES

East Village blast victim to be laid to rest today

PAGE 06

Fate of Boston bomber now up to jury

PAGE 12

Ludacris finally gets to kick some butt

PAGE 15

1 NEWS

Top 3

The best of Metro.us

1 'More sleep equals more sex (at least for women)'

2 'OMG: "Panoply" is the new social media site for depression'

3 'VIRAL VIDEO: Monkey gently pets adorable puppies'

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Beatdown video bad for business

Brooklyn. Flatbush businesses hope the viral video's notoriety will fade.

A Flatbush Avenue dance studio is working to bounce back after a viral video last month took a bite out of their business.

On March 12, cellphone cameras captured multiple students from nearby Erasmus Hall High School beating up 15-year-old girl who appeared to lose consciousness after falling to the floor and having her head stomped on. Six teenage girls have since been arrested for their alleged part in the beatdown, which police believe was gang motivated.

"Because it's so close, it hurt [our business]," said Jacqueline Finch, who coordinates Kizomba classes — a sensual dance from Africa — at the Balmir Latin Dance Studio. By Finch's count, the studio is just 30 steps away from the now-infamous Flatbush Avenue McDonald's near Snyder Avenue.

Finch, born and raised in Brooklyn, said classes ground to a halt after the video went viral, and she has only sold a handful of tickets for an upcoming Kizomba event that she thought would bring in hundreds.

"You get phone calls like, 'You know, Jackie, I don't want to go over there. There's a lot going on the neighborhood,'" Finch said. "I had a DJ who said he's not going to DJ over here because he doesn't want his equipment stolen. That really hurt me. This is my neighborhood."

And while studio owner Eric Balmir said after-school classes, such as karate, have climbed back to the pre-brawl numbers of about 20, he's concerned that nothing's been done to prevent a similar situation from happening.

"We deal with children, for the most part. We're a family business," said Balmir, who opened his studio four years ago. "It's just a negative vibe, we consoled parents and had to convince them that it was safe and we're still here."

Willard Philip, a clothing store employee near the McDonald's, said the increased police presence and media attention may help local businesses.

"In any part of the world, people will fight," Philip said. "But something like this, it just went too far."

Jacqueline Finch, 40, of Balmir Latin Dance Studio on Flatbush Avenue in front of the McDonald's where the fight video took place. / MILES DIXON, METRO

Quoted

"There have been things like that before. Compared to what this neighborhood was, it's like heaven now, it's sad to say, but it's not so bad anymore."

Ricky Rivera,
owner of Forever Ink tattoo shop

WENDY JOAN BIDDLECOMBE
Wendy.Biddlecombe@metro.us

Crime

Two fatal Easter shootings in Queens, Bronx under investigation

The NYPD on Monday was investigating two fatal Easter shootings — a 42-year-old father of two in Queens and a 19-year-old in The Bronx.

Sean Overton was shot dead just after 5 p.m. Sunday outside the Astoria Houses, at 2-10 Astoria Boulevard, Astoria, Queens.

Cops said the victim was found lying on his back after taking bullets to the neck and torso.

The Daily News reports witnesses described the shooter to cops as dressed all in black — and wearing pink shoes.

Overton was pronounced dead at Astoria General Hospital. He had two kids — ages 2 and 4.

In the other Easter Sunday shooting death, Jose Velasquez, 19, of the South Bronx, was gunned down at 3:30 a.m. He was found with bullet wounds to his neck and torso at the intersection of Walton and Burnside avenues.

He was pronounced dead on arrival at St. Barnabas Hospital.

Velasquez, of Leggett Avenue, had a criminal history, officials told the Daily News. He was killed in front of a closed beauty supply store. The suspect fired eight rounds, the paper said.

Both killings are under investigation. METRO

Video captured during the ordeal shows passengers waiting in the stranded train for help to arrive.
PROVIDED / RAUL ROJAS

Stranded. Trapped 7 line riders rescued from below East River

Like Popeye getting ready to knock out Bluto, beleaguered New York City riders of the 7 line subway were infuriated Monday morning when a Manhattan-bound train got stuck in a tunnel beneath the East River for 90 minutes.

For several hours, the MTA website said there were mechanical troubles at Grand Central. The truth was far worse.

At around 8:15 a.m., the emergency brakes on a train in the tunnel suddenly halted the train between Vernon Boulevard-Jackson Avenue and Grand Central. Multiple reports said train equipment hit the third rail, causing a smoke condition.

All service was halted, and an hour and a half later, passengers boarded a "rescue train" that pulled alongside their stuck morning ride. JOHN A. OSWALD

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People aboard a vintage train from 1917 to the first game of the season for the Yankees. / MILES DIXON

Riding in style

Nostalgia Special. Yankee fans cram into a vintage train to get to opening day at Yankee Stadium in the Bronx.

MILES DIXON, METRO

If you were in Grand Central station yesterday, and spotted what looks like a really — really — old train on the uptown 4 and 5 express track, you weren't imagining things.

The four-car "Nostalgia Special" departed Grand Central at 11:30 a.m., rolling into Yankee Stadium about 30 minutes later and depositing eager baseball fans for opening day to watch the Yanks face off against the Toronto Blue Jays.

The vintage subway cars, originally operated by the Interborough Rapid Transit system, entered service in 1917 and worked into the early 1960s.

It cost a nickel to ride the subway in 1917; 15 cents in the '60s. Yesterday, it was $2.75.

"I could feel all the excitement on the old train on the way up, it was great."
Lindsey, 31, Staten Island

"I can't wait for the game!"
Will Castel, 11, New Jersey

"I think people are taking it easy on us because we're girls, but we bumped into some guy Blue Jays fans who might not get it so easy. The main thing I'm looking forward to is the s— talking, honestly! (laughs). Should be fun."
Stephanie Rolls, 24, Toronto

"Yankee Fan since birth. The people make the experience better. New Yorkers are so loud and obnoxious, it's great."
Robert Arellano, 27, Manhattan

"I've been coming to the opening for nine years and running. It's not like any other game. There's a feeling of rebirth — so much potential."
Robby Chacko, 40, Yonkers

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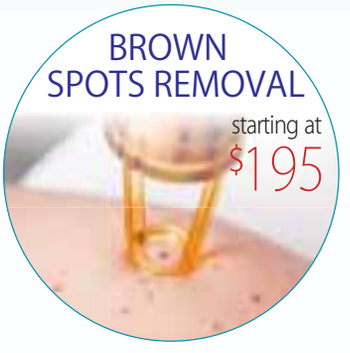

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Photo: Mario Ismael Espinoza and Kimberly Van Woesik in *CARMEN.maquia* © Paula Lobo

Victim of East Village explosion laid to rest

Go Fund Me.
Donations pour for funeral of man killed in last month's blast.

The family of Nicholas Figueroa, one of the victim's of the East Village explosion, successfully raised more than $27,300 on Go Fund Me to cover his funeral expenses.

Crowdfunding

Unable to pay for his funeral, Figueroa's family started a crowdfunding campaign for funeral expenses.

- By Monday, more than $27,300 of the $30,000 requested had been raised by Go Fund Me donations.

Figueroa, one of two people killed in the March 26 inferno, will be laid to rest on Tuesday.

Figueroa, 23, was on a date at Sushi Park at 121 Second Avenue between East 7th Street and St. Marks Place when an explosion, believed to be caused by an illegal gas diversion, ripped through the building.

The blast also killed Moises Locon, who worked as a busboy at the restaurant, and leveled two nearby buildings.

Figueroa's funeral is set for 10 a.m. at the Church of the Holy Name of Jesus at 207 West 96th Street.

Rescue crews recovered both Figueroa and Locon's bodies last Sunday.

Locon was identified later in the week.

In the days following the explosion and fire, the Figueroa family had kept a vigil close to the barricades that police had set up on Second Avenue at St. Marks Place. There they prayed, shouted words of encouragement to first responders and threw white flowers into the street.

Nicholas Figueroa / PROVIDED

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Five things you need to know

1 Facebook's new service - divorce papers

News broke Monday that a New York State court ruled a woman seeking a divorce could serve the papers to her estranged husband via Facebook.

Manhattan Supreme Court Justice Matthew Cooper, ruled that lawyers representing Ellanora Baidoo could "serve (the) defendant with the divorce summons using a private message through Facebook."

Does this mean we have to start worrying about being served next time we log on to Facebook? The answer is tricky.

"The legal basis in general is that you can't bring someone into a lawsuit of any type unless you give them notice. It's a fundamental requirement of the law," James Cohen, associate professor of Law at Fordham University told Metro.

How a plaintiff provides that notice is a separate matter entirely.

The core requirement of serving someone is requiring verification that the service was indeed received.

Cohen explained that the rules regarding serving legal documents are flexible and do not exclude or prohibit using Facebook as means of serving someone.

So it turns out that little "seen" notification in Facebook's message platform just might be enough to drag you to court.

MATT LEE, METRO

Will Facebook make an emoticon for divorce papers?/ BILLY BECERRA

2 Arkansas woman dies at 116 after six-day reign as world's oldest person

Gertrude Weaver, who last week became the world's oldest-known living person, has died at the age of 116 at a senior care facility in Arkansas, officials said on Monday.

Weaver, who said the key to longevity was to treat people kindly, basked in her brief moment in the global spotlight. She enjoyed reading news articles about being the oldest person on the planet, said Kathy Langley, the administrator of the Silver Oaks Health & Rehabilitation Center in Camden, Arkansas.

REUTERS

3 Lufthansa says not obligated to report pilot's medical record

Lufthansa said on Monday it was not required to inform German aviation authorities about Andreas Lubitz's former depression because he qualified as a pilot before stricter reporting rules went into effect in 2013.

The question of what Lufthansa knew about any psychiatric problems may be a factor in its liability in the crash. Germany's Allianz estimates that insurers will end up paying $300 million in claims and costs related to the crash.

REUTERS

LUBITZ /GETTY IMAGES

4 NC judge allows possible death penalty in murder of three Muslims

A North Carolina judge ruled on Monday that a man accused of killing three young Muslims in February could face the death penalty if convicted of murder.

Craig Hicks, 46, was indicted on three counts of first-degree murder in the shooting deaths of a newlywed couple who were his neighbors in Chapel Hill and the wife's sister, a college student.

During a brief court hearing, prosecutors from the Durham County District Attorney's Office offered evidence of aggravating factors to make their case for pursuing the matter as a capital case. REUTERS

5 Three dead after van carrying bands crashes in Ga.

Three people were killed and eight others injured in Georgia when a van carrying musicians from two bands veered off a freeway and struck a tree, police said.

The van was carrying 12 occupants and traveling southbound on Interstate 85 about 65 miles north of Atlanta, when it went down an embankment and collided with a tree.

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution reported that the musicians were members of Khaotika and Wormreich.

REUTERS

LOGO FOR THE BAND KHAOTIKA

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Politics. Does Jeb marking himself as Hispanic trump Hillary's emails?

Mentiroso!

Jeb Bush, a front-runner for the 2016 Republican presidential nomination, issued a major mea culpa Monday for marking himself as "Hispanic" on a 2009 voter registration form.

On a document filed with the Miami-Dade County Elections Department, The New York Times said that a circle marked "Hispanic" is checked. The next circle — "White, not Hispanic" — was what is accurate.

"My mistake! Don't think I've fooled anyone!" Bush tweeted, with the hashtag, #Honorary-Latino."

And everybody on Team Bush just finds it the darndest thing.

Verdad.

Bush is the brother of former President George W. Bush and son of President George H.W. Bush.

Jeb Bush speaks fluent Spanish and his wife, Columba, is Mexican-born.

Jeb Bush / GETTY IMAGES

Hillary Clinton / GETTY IMAGES

Quoted

"The governor's family certainly got a good laugh out of it ... He is not Hispanic."

Kristy Campbell, Spokeswomen

A recent Fox poll showed him and Hillary Clinton in a dead heat in a head-to-head match up. Clinton, a former secretary of state in President Barack Obama's first term, has drawn fire recently for deleting State Department-related emails from her private server.

Bush, a former Florida governor, and Scott Walker, the two-term governor of Wisconsin are leading the crowded GOP field for their party's nod. **JOHN A. OSWALD**

University of Virginia

Fraternity chapter to sue 'reckless' Rolling Stone

The University of Virginia fraternity chapter at the center of Rolling Stone magazine's retracted article "A Rape on Campus" said that it planned to sue the magazine for what it called "reckless" reporting that hurt its reputation.

The chapter of Phi Kappa Psi said in a statement that it would pursue all available legal action, a day after a team from the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism concluded the magazine failed to follow basic journalistic safeguards in publishing the story.

"Clearly our fraternity and its members have been defamed, but more importantly we fear this entire episode may prompt some victims to remain in the shadows, fearful to confront their attackers," Stephen Scipione, the president of the fraternity chapter in Charlottesville, Virginia, said in a statement.

Lawyers with expertise in libel and defamation law have been divided on whether Phi Kappa Psi or its members at the university were in a strong position to sue.

Scipione said Rolling Stone researched its story recklessly and failed to verify accusations.

A spokesman for the fraternity said he did not know what would be in the planned lawsuit, or when the fraternity's lawyers would file it. **REUTERS**

A screen shot from the Columbia Journalism Review website. / CJR.COM

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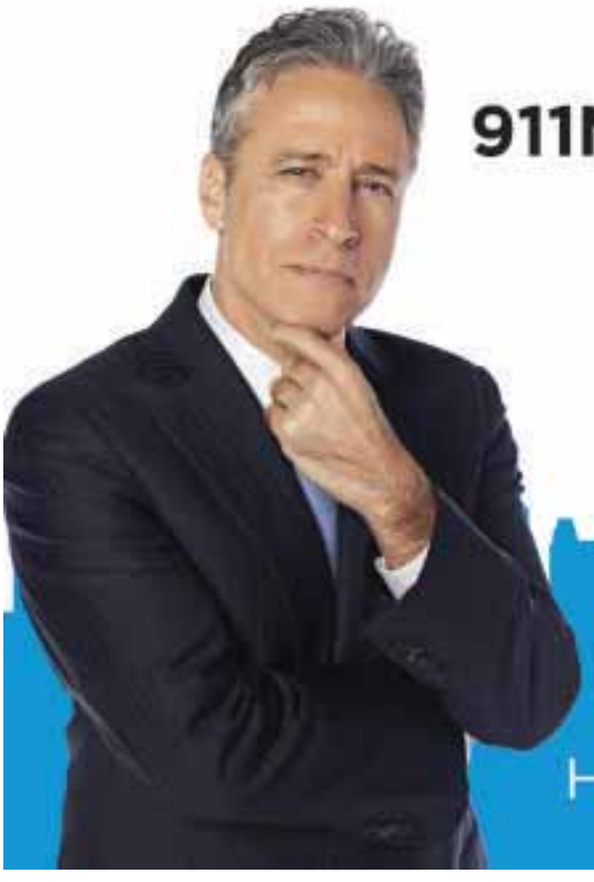

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Arguments wrap up in marathon bombing trial

Boston bombing. Tsarnaev "wanted to punish America," says a prosecutor.

Tsarnaev in court Monday
SKETCH BY JANE FLAVELL COLLINS

Accused Boston Marathon bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev "wanted to punish America" when he killed three people and injured 264 more with a pair of homemade bombs at the 2013 race, a federal prosecutor said on Monday.

In closing arguments before a jury decides whether Tsarnaev, 21, is guilty of the April 15, 2013, bombing and of fatally shooting a police officer three days later, Assistant U.S. Attorney Aloke Chakravarty described the attack as deliberate and extremist.

"The defendant thought that his values were more important than the people around him. He wanted to awake the mujahedeen, the holy warriors," Chakravarty said. "He wanted to terrorize this country. He wanted to punish America for what it was doing to his people."

Tsarnaev, an ethnic Chechen who moved to the United States about a decade before the attack, could be sentenced to death if the jury that heard 16 days of testimony finds him guilty.

Defense attorney Judith Clarke opened the trial a month ago with a blunt admission, that "it was him" who carried out the attack. But his lawyers contended that Tsarnaev did so not out of his own ideological anger but out of a sense of subservience to his older brother, 26-year-old Tamerlan, who prosecutors say was his partner in the attack.

On Monday, Clarke continued that theme.

"There is no excuse. No one is trying to make one. Planting bombs at the Boston Marathon one year and 51 weeks ago was a senseless act," Clarke said. "Dzhokhar Tsarnaev stands ready by your verdict to be held responsible for his actions."

But, she added, evidence showed Tamerlan to have been the leader of the plot.

"Tamerlan built the bombs, Tamerlan murdered (Massachusetts Institute of Technology police) officer Collier, Tamerlan lead and Dzhokhar followed," Clarke said. REUTERS

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THE WORD

Ned Ehrbar takes on the world of gossip.

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1

She doesn't look too happy. / ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES UNLESS STATED OTHERWISE

Kristen Stewart pretty miffed about Robert Pattinson's engagement

Kristen Stewart is reportedly really angry about that whole FKA Twigs getting engaged to Stewart's former "Twilight" boyfriend, Robert Pattinson, thing — even if Stewart herself may be claiming otherwise. "She is really pissed off over Rob getting engaged to FKA Twigs after knowing her for only a couple of months. She is saying she really does not care at all about this, but everyone knows that is not the case," a source tells Radar Online. "Kristen was with Rob for several years and he never gave her the option of marriage. Every time she tried to bring it up, he would always shoot her down and say he was not ready. The fact that he was all of a sudden ready just really annoys her." And hell hath no fury like an ex-girlfriend annoyed. Or something.

2

Royal decree: Selfies are bad

Prince Harry, the British royal family's backup plan if something happens to Prince William, has some very strong opinions about the social media habits of today's young people. While chatting with a teenager during an official visit to Australia, Harry cautioned the youth to knock it off with the selfies. "Seriously, you need to get out of it. I know you're young, but selfies are bad," the Prince offered.

NOT A SELFIE.

"Vanilla Ensure. Shaken, not stirred."

3

On her majesty's disabled list

Daniel Craig spent the Easter holiday having knee surgery in New York despite being in the middle of filming his fourth outing as James Bond, though producers swear it will have no impact on production of "Spectre," due out later this year.

Certainly this news will in no way encourage more jokes about how the 47-year-old actor might be getting a too little long in tooth to play the international superspy. That would just be juvenile, right? But if we were looking to be childish, what would be some good, age-appropriate versions of Bond movie titles? How about:

"Oldfinger"
"You Only Qualify for AARP Twice"
"The Nurse Who Bathed Me"
"Dr. No More High-Sodium Foods"
"From Boca With Love"
"Depends Are Forever"

I could go on …

THUMBS UP, AVENGERS FANS. MARVEL

4

A Marvel movie marathon for the real fans

Think you're a real Marvel movie fan, do you? If you were, you'd be lining up for this 29-hour, 11-movie marathon they're putting on to celebrate the release of "Avengers: Age of Ultron," which runs through the Marvel Cinematic Universe so far — and poses a severe risk of triggering deep vein thrombosis — before culminating in the newest film. The first of such marathons takes place in Hollywood on April 20, but if you're willing to wait until April 29 you can experience it closer to home at AMC/Loews Lincoln Square. The whole deal will only set you back $70.

Daily video

John Oliver interviews Edward Snowden

John Oliver surprised viewers with an exclusive in-person interview with Edward Snowden — "the most famous hero and/or traitor in recent American history," as Oliver puts it. And Oliver didn't hold back during their Moscow-set chat, characterizing the fallout of one of Snowden's leaked NSA documents as "a f—-up" that is on his shoulders.

In a friendlier section of the chat, Oliver finds a much more personal way to make Americans care more about the subject of government surveillance. "The bad news is [the government is] still collecting everybody's information, including your d— pics," Snowden says.

@LASTWEEKTONIGHTWITHJOHNOLIVER/ YOUTUBE

2 CULTURE

Twitter feed

Today, Tyra Banks is in a good mood, Rosie O'Donnell is on the road again, Mark Duplass is a poet, Louis Tomlinson is famished and Jaden Smith is calculating.

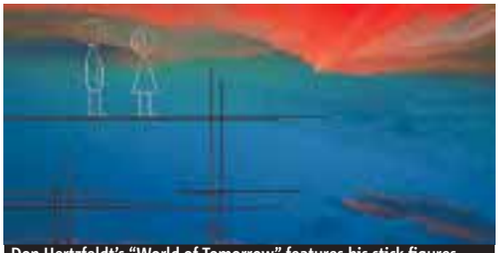
@tyrabanks:
Woke up smizing

@Rosie:
my bags r packed - I'm ready 2 go …

@MarkDuplass:
Bathroom candles make me a little sad. Poop vigil.

@Louis_Tomlinson:
Gonna order a fat dominos when I get home !! Been toooo long

@officialjaden:
That Moment When You Can't Sleep Soo You Start Doing Math.



Don Hertzfeldt's "World of Tomorrow" features his stick figures drawn on boldly-colored backgrounds. / VIMEO

DON HERTZFELDT STRIKES AGAIN

Animation

'World of Tomorrow'

Vimeo, $3.99

To say animator Don Hertzfeldt makes goofy stick-figure toons is to miss how deeply strange and, at the same time, how profoundly sad they are. Even his early breakthroughs — "Billy's Balloon" and the Oscar-nominated "Rejected" — are steeped in existential despair. His latest, the short "World of Tomorrow," builds on both the cosmic indifference that marked his sole feature so far, "It's Such a Beautiful Day," and his brilliant "Simpsons" couch gag from last year, in which the family are seen in the deep, distant future as no more than catch-phrase-spewing blobs. "Tomorrow" offers another grim jaunt into the future, with a third-generation clone hob-nobbing with the child version of her original self. What results is like a downer Douglas Adams, going back and forth between depressing and hilarious. **MP**

Biopic

'Amadeus'

Netflix Instant

One of the too few clever biopics spins the tale of Mozart (Tom Hulce) story from the POV of composer hack Salieri (F. Murray Abraham), who claims he may have, sort of, but probably not, killed him. Of Milos Forman's Hollywood fare, it may be the closest in pep and caustic humor to his early Czech films, like "Loves of a Blonde" and "The Fireman's Ball."

Horror

'The Devil's Rejects'

Netflix Instant

Rob Zombie is a real filmmaker, as evidenced by this gruesome and weirdly thoughtful experiment in audience identification, forcing you to fear then sympathize with a pack of psychos.

Helen Mirren is voting Hillary for president

Interview. The "Woman in Gold" star tells us to chill out about accents.

In "Woman in Gold," Helen Mirren (with Ryan Reynolds) plays Maria Altmann, a woman who escaped the Holocaust and had to fight to reclaim famous paintings stolen from her family by the Nazis. / THE WEINSTEIN COMPANY

Helen Mirren does not mind the brutal winter New York has had. One reason is "The Audience," her new Broadway play, in which she once again plays Queen Elizabeth. Alas, she's spending her day off from the show talking to strangers about her newest movie, "Woman in Gold." She portrays Maria Altmann, who fought to regain paintings — including a few Gustav Klimts — stolen from her family by the Nazis.

Was it the subject of the Nazis plundering Europe's art that intrigued you in "Woman in Gold"?
It was the story. It was big in the newspapers at the time, so I don't know how I missed it. But I was blown away by the story. Great story, great role. She's on the last page of the script — that's always a good thing about a role. If you're not on the last page, you look at the last time you enter when you exit the story. If it's a good exit, then it's a good role. If it just dribbles away, it's no good.

So you always look at the last page?
It's the first page I look at.

HELEN MIRREN / GETTY IMAGES

You were French in "The Hundred Foot Journey," and you're Austrian here. People make such a big deal out of accents, as though they were magic tricks.
They do — a much bigger deal than they really merit — except with people who are really bad at it. Some people are unbelievably bad at it. Some people are unfairly criticized for having a bad accent when actually they've got a really good accent. But because it's Brad Pitt or Keanu Reeves, the American audiences assume their accents aren't good, when they're actually really good. Because American audiences don't know, they assume the accents can't be good because they're famous movie stars.

MATT PRIGGE
@mattprigge
matt.prigge@metro.us

One more thing

On women

Do you think Hollywood is getting better for actresses?
I always fight for liberty, for equality in real life, as then the roles will follow, as night follows day. Mrs. Thatcher was absolutely the extreme opposite of what I was politically. ... But I always say Mrs. Thatcher was a great role model. You have a five-year-old girl watching television and there's Mrs. Thatcher making a speech, and she says, "Mommy, who's that?" And Mommy says, "That's the prime minister of England." So for that reason and that reason alone I would love to see Hillary [Clinton] become president."

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Ludacris finally gets his fight scene

Fast talk. The "Furious 7" star has been waiting to let his fists fly.

Ludacris gets down to business in "Furious 7." / SCOTT GARFIELD

Playing the tech guy in a series of heist movies like the "Fast and Furious" franchise often means you have to sit out most of the big, all-out brawls. But that wasn't working for Ludacris. So for "Furious 7" he wanted to make sure his character, Tej, gets to whoop some ass. Oh, and drive some pretty nice cars, too.

You usually avoid the fights in these films.
You know, I'm behind the scenes with the computers, the brains of the operation. I was pushing for one, though. It wasn't in the script, I had to get it in there. So it was only right. I was like, "Here's an opportunity here where I can kick some ass." I've been practicing this martial art called 52 Blocks, so I was able to kind of do a demo reel and show the director and the producer what it was that I wanted to do, and they were able to incorporate it. So we're good.

What does 52 Blocks incorporate?
Fifty-Two Blocks has a lot of knees, elbows and head in it, and it's been around for a long time but it kind of got popularized in the jail system. It's called Jailhouse Rock, and that's why it's close-quarters kind of stuff — so much elbows, knees and head and getting the fight over as quick as possible. It's a kind of street-fighting thing. You never know what to expect.

LUDACRIS WOULD ALSO LIKE YOU TO KNOW HE HAS AN ALBUM COMING OUT. / GETTY IMAGES

Do you want to do more stuff like that in an action movie where you're the star?
Hell yeah, I would love to. You start putting the word out and we're good. We'll figure it out, we will figure it out.

Bonus questions

All about that torque

If money were no object, what would be your most important car purchase?
I love the Ford GT more than all of the cars I've driven [in the films], man. I love that car. Stick shift, the way it's designed. It's not as popular as all the rest, but I love it. And it's American.

What was your favorite ride in this film?
Probably the Bugatti — not to be cliche, but that s— is like a spaceship on wheels, you know? It's so much fun. If you literally accidentally tap the damn pedal, it's moving. So much torque.

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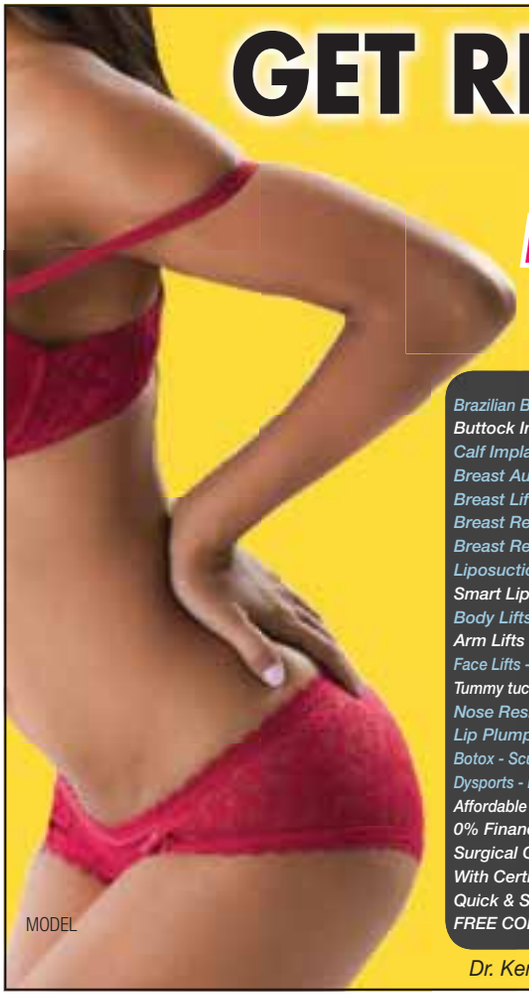

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R.L. Stine: 'It's great to be killing teens again'

Young Adult. The "Goosebumps" and "Fear Street" author revives his cult classic series, and it's all thanks to Twitter.

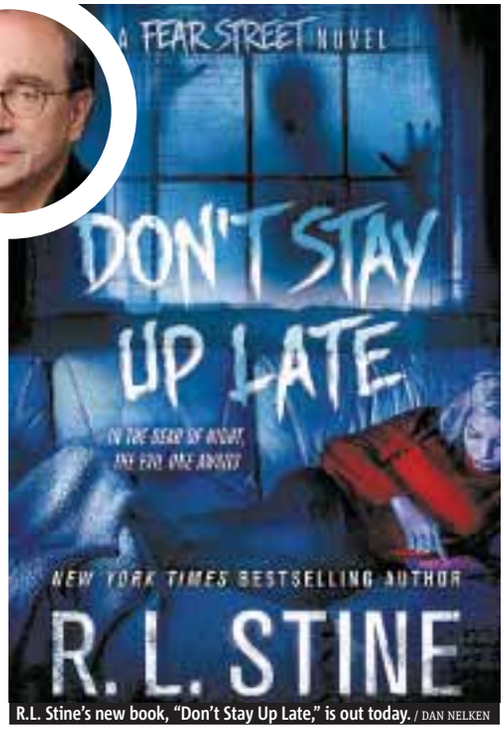
R.L. Stine loves Twitter. He not only used it to write an entire short story in rapid-fire tweets last Halloween, he uses it now to interact with fans who remember being kept up all night reading his books back in the '80s and '90s. It has also played a part in getting his new book, "Don't Stay Up Late," published.

What went into the decision to revive "Fear Street"?
My fans on Twitter kept asking me to write another one. I was really honest and told them that I had taken ["Fear Street"] to some publishers, but no one was interested. Ten minutes later, [an editor] at St. Martins tweeted me and said she was interested. So, it's great to be killing teens again.

When you wrote the original series, how fast were the books coming out?
Every month. People don't believe it, but I was actually writing two books a month, a "Fear Street" book and a "Goosebumps" book. … The excitement of having these best sellers was so exhilarating. It really kept me going.

The '90s had this obsession with "Goosebumps" and shows like "Are You Afraid of the Dark?" Why do you think kids were obsessed with being scared?
It was a fad for one thing. Kids want to do what other kids are doing. But when I asked kids what they liked about the books — because I didn't get it — they all said it was because they liked to be scared. I realized that people like to be scared if they know they are safe.

And what about you?



R.L. Stine's new book, "Don't Stay Up Late," is out today. / DAN NELKEN

Why do you love telling these stories?
This is what I do. I've been writing since I was nine. I was this weird kid in my room typing all the time. … But I love these stories. I love thinking of new chapter endings. All my chapters end with a cliffhanger. I started out writing humor and writing a cliffhanger is the same thing as writing a punch line.

EMILY LAURENCE
@EmLaurence
emily.laurence@metro.us

If you go

Meet R.L. Stine

Saturday, April 11, 5 p.m.
Book Culture
450 Columbus Ave.,
212-595-1962
www.bookculture.com

Sunday, April 12, 3 p.m.
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Why your workout should be seasonal

How YouTube fitness star Cassey Ho keeps Pilates fresh.

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Few people are looking forward to spring more than California girl Cassey Ho, creator of the massively popular Blogilates workouts on YouTube. Not only does it bring the flowers and sunshine she craves, but it's a chance to be outside again — and rev up her routines.

"I will go hard all year round; but for a lot of people, they want to move with how they feel," she explains. "So you don't want to push someone so hard that they feel like, 'Hey, I might as well just sit on the couch and do nothing.'"

After going from a one-off video made for her friends and family in 2009 to an exercise empire of 2 million subscribers who can't get enough of her pop music-fueled workouts and nutrition guides, Ho is releasing her first book, "Hot Body Year Round," today.

To keep her beloved Pilates fun (she's been a fan since coming across it on TV at age 16), "Hot Body Year Round" adds a seasonal element to her workouts. But she doesn't just take her mat outdoors; the exercises change with the time of year, so the stretching-focused routines of winter are now giving way to more intense burning and toning sessions.

"I wanted to really motivate people to be inspired throughout the year, because I know you have your bikini season when you think, 'Let's go hard!,' and all of a sudden it's back to school and it's holidays and nobody wants to move anymore, they just want to eat," she says. "And so, along with the seasons you have the ebb and flow of how hard you want to go."

We've got three of her spring moves — hop to it!

'Hot Body Year Round' workout and book signing

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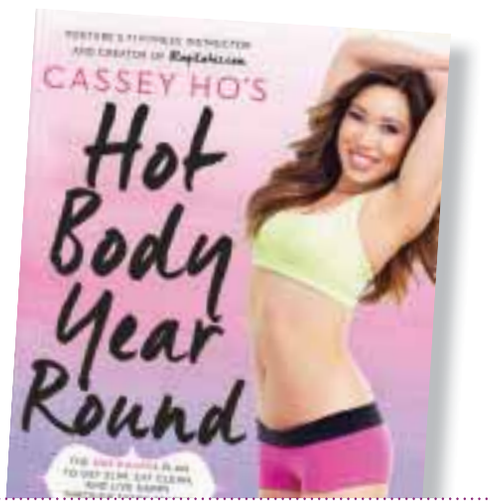

Mini Circle

Works: Inner and outer thighs, butt

Balance on your side with your left palm and left knee on the mat, pelvis and chest straight forward, right hand on your hip. Beginners, you may lie on your side with one hand underneath your head and the other in front of you for balance. Lift your right leg to hip height and begin to circle your whole leg forward. Repeat 20 times, then circle it backward, then switch sides and repeat.

Lunging Bird

Works: Quads, butt, lower back

Keeping your back straight, bring your left leg behind you into a lunge. Both knees should be at 90-degree angles. Push off the ball of your left foot and raise your left leg into an arabesque with your arms stretched out behind you.

ALL PHOTOS DAVID KIM, 'HOT BODY YEAR ROUND'

Cheerleader L Crunch

Works: Upper and lower abs

Lie down, pressing your lower back into the mat. Keep your legs straight, toes pointed, one leg out parallel to the floor, while raising the other leg up to the sky. Keep your elbows pointed outward and lift your chest to do a crunch. Repeat 10 times with each leg.

Notice of FY 2015 Annual Public Meetings

The Board of Directors of the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation invite you to attend its Fiscal Year 2015 Annual Public Meetings in accordance with §7384(10) of the HHC Enabling Act.

Following a report on the activities of the Corporation, the public is invited to make oral and/or written presentations. Allotted speaking time is FIVE (5) minutes. Speakers are asked to register in advance by writing or calling:

Ms. Patricia Lockhart, Secretary to the Corporation,
New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation,
125 Worth Street, Room 519,
New York, New York 10013,
Telephone: 212-788-3060

Limited interpreter and American Sign Language services may be available upon request in advance of registration deadline dates ONLY.

On-site registration will be available at each location on the day of the meeting beginning at 5:30 p.m. and ending at 6:30 p.m. Speakers who register in advance will be given priority on the speaking schedule.

These events are Wheelchair accessible.

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MANHATTAN
TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2015 - 6 PM
Gouverneur HealthCare Services
227 Madison Street — First Floor Auditorium
New York, NY 10002
Advance Registration Deadline: 04/27/2015

BRONX
TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2015 - 6 PM
Jacobi Medical Center
Jacobi Training Center—Building '4' - Second Floor
1400 Pelham Parkway South
Bronx, NY 10461
Advance Registration Deadline: 05/18/2015

BROOKLYN
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Brooklyn, NY 11203
Advance Registration Deadline: 05/19/2015

STATEN ISLAND
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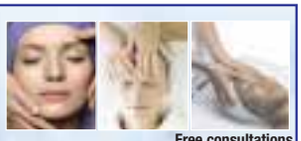

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Living well (and gluten-free!) in Paris

An American puts a modern, vegan spin on French food.

ELODIE NOEL
letters@metro.us

"When I moved to Paris, I was like, 'What is the patisserie of the day?' I had to get a fresh baguette every single day," recalls Rebecca Leffler, the American author of the new book "Très Green, Très Clean, Très Chic" (out April 21).

With a grandfather deli owner and a baker for a great-grandfather, Leffler had good food in her genes and always loved cooking. But two years ago, the 32-year-old began having some health issues that forced her to completely change her diet.

"When the doctor said no dairy, no gluten, I got really confused because back then, my life in France was all about bread and cheese," she says. "But then I realized that, au contraire, I didn't have to deprive myself, it would just force me to get more creative."

Though France is famous for its tasty cheeses, breads, wines, heavy dishes with plenty of sauce and, of course, buttery desserts, Leffler feels it's far from incompatible with green and clean eating.

With superfoods like kale and chia seeds that weren't used in classic French recipes, she's shaken up tradition, too. "Auguste Escoffier is probably turning in his grave now, but I revisited his famous sauces. My veloute has cashews, and I add tahini to the hollandaise," she confides.

And forget crash diets and juice cleanses; the French way of detoxing is about doing something to feel healthier every day. "It's all about finding the right balance for you," she says.

Recipe

Pancrepes

Can't decide between a thin French crepe and its robust American cousin, the pancake? Try a pancrepe! It's thicker than a crepe and thus, much easier to make at home – no special skillet required.

ISTOCK

Ingredients:

For pancrepes:

- 2 tbsp. coconut oil
- ½ cup buckwheat flour
- ½ cup brown rice flour
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- Pinch of salt
- 1 tbsp. maple syrup
- 1 tbsp. lemon juice
- 1¼ cups almond milk

Fruity sauce:

- 1 cup chopped seasonal fruit (apples, pears, cherries, figs)
- 1 tsp. lemon juice
- ¼ tsp. vanilla powder or extract
- ¼ tsp. cinnamon

Directions for pancrepes:

Blend the flours, baking powder and salt in a bowl. Add the maple syrup, lemon juice and almond milk and mix well. The consistency should be liquid, but thick. If you prefer thinner pancrepes, add more almond milk.

Put a small portion of the coconut oil into a pan on low heat until melted. Pour in a scoop of the batter. Cook for about 2 minutes, until the top starts to bubble; flip and cook until golden brown. Repeat; recipe makes about eight pancakes.

To make the sauce, either blend all ingredients in a blender until smooth and creamy, or add all ingredients to a small pot and cook, covered, on low heat for 5 to 10 minutes, until soft. Mash with a fork, then spoon on top of the pancrepes.

Breast milk purchased online could be diluted with water, or worse. ISTOCK

When breast milk may not be best

If you were unable to produce your own breast milk, would you turn to the Internet to buy some from a stranger? More and more women are doing just that — but the largely unregulated industry is associated with some serious risks.

A new study released yesterday found that out of 102 samples of breast milk purchased through milk-sharing websites, 11 of them were contaminated with cow's milk.

"Drinking cow's milk can be very harmful to a baby with an allergy or with intolerance," the study's co-author Dr. Sarah Keim of Nationwide Children's Hospital said in a statement.

A previous study from the same research team found that unpasteurized breast milk purchased on the Internet had high levels of disease-causing bacteria, including staph and strep, according to co-author Dr. Jesse J. Kwiek of Ohio State University.

Caffeine, alcohol and drugs can all find their way into breast milk, notes Dr. Sarah Steele at the London School of Medicine and Dentistry. Unsanitary collection and improper storage and shipping can all contribute. Another issue is maximizing profits.

"People selling their breast milk ... are often selling it by the ounce, so there's the specific risk that what you're buying could be diluted," Steele says. MARIANNE HAYES

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Horoscope

♈ Aries | March 21-April 20
Overspending will cause problems. Think twice before you spend. You work too hard to fritter away your wages on frivolous items.

♉ Taurus | April 21-May 21
Someone from your past is thinking about you. A new acquaintance will be attracted by your charisma, beliefs and potential.

♊ Gemini | May 22-June 20
Your ability to multitask will be appreciated when you offer help to your peers. These same individuals will be in your corner when you require assistance.

♋ Cancer | June 21-July 22
Love is on the rise. Strive to improve self-confidence. Attending a social event will lead to a discussion that could change your future.

♌ Leo | July 23-Aug. 22
It's important to do your share of household duties. Family members will criticize you if you do not live up to your end of a bargain.

♍ Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22
Joining community activities is a great way to make new friends. Sign up for something that appeals to you. Participating in events will help improve your position.

♎ Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22
You are overdue for a change. Home improvements will be rewarding. You will gain satisfaction from doing work yourself.

♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21
Widen your social circle. The more situations you experience, the more likely you are to meet people with similar ideas and interests.

♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21
You will have to be diligent if you want to find out what is going on behind the scenes. Don't rely on secondhand information. Do the research yourself.

♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan. 20
A friend will be looking for assistance, but don't fall prey to a sob story. You should not offer monetary support.

♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb. 18
If someone you depend on is unhappy, consider what you can do to help. Lending a hand will lead to a closer relationship.

♓ Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20
Your daily routine will feel stale. If your mind is craving some unusual stimuli, visit a museum or art gallery, or take a day trip to an unusual destination. EUGENIA LAST

Sudoku: Easy and hard

		2			1		4	3
		3			5	9		
8		6			9		2	
			5		7	8	6	
				3				
	5	8	6		4			
	2		1			6		4
		7	9			2		
6	1		7			3		

		3		6			2	
		4					9	
6			4	1	9		7	
5		2	6		7			
			9	5	3			
			2		1	3		5
	8		1	7	2			9
	4					1		
	1			3		2		

How to play
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Letters to the editor

An effort well received

Two weeks ago I returned to my parked car. A handwritten note on my windshield provided the case number for the transit police report for a hit-and-run accident someone observed that afternoon. That the information provided by a witness means the other person's insurance should fully cover the damage is a relief, of course.

But what really makes me smile whenever I think about it, is that a stranger went to the effort to report it. Outstanding! And a reminder to me to pay it forward when the opportunity arises. Thank you to the police officer as well.
KATIE DURHAM, VIA EMAIL

What a joke

Let's compare the reactions to the anti-Black/Obama jokes of Ferguson city officials with the recent anti-Muslim/Muhammad jokes of France's "Charlie Hebdo" magazine. It is not an issue of which jokes are more despicable, but how elitists defined "free speech" in the two situations. Much of the world actually celebrated the public Charlie Hebdo jokes, while the private jokes of Ferguson officials were considered "shocking" and scandalous. What say you, "I am Charlie Hebdo" folks?
ART BURNS, VIA EMAIL

letters@metro.us
Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact info.

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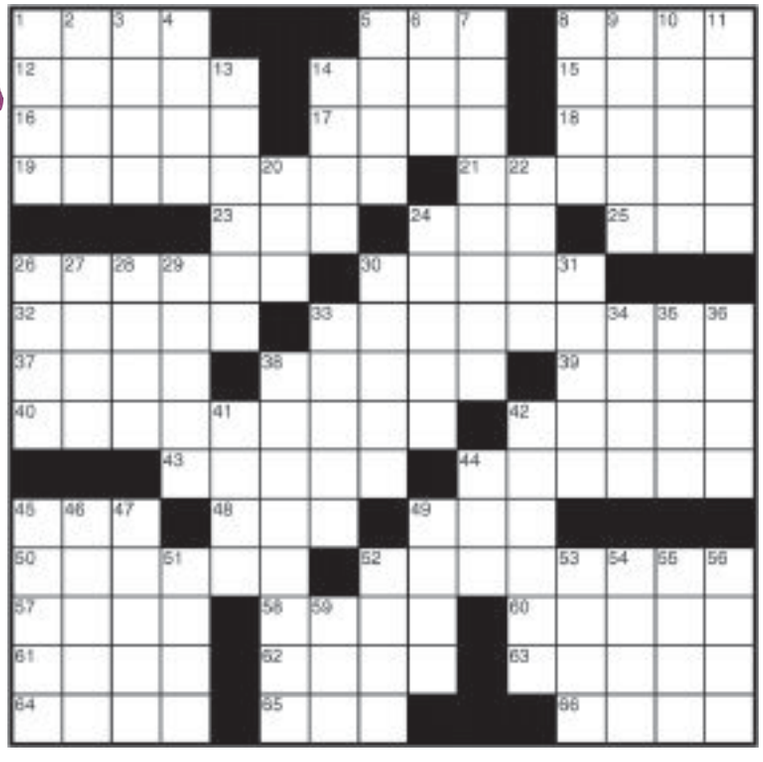
Use your smartphone to find today's crossword answers! Download and open the Blippar app on your smartphone and hold the screen over the puzzle.

Crossword

Across
1 Amble
5 Big black dog
8 Curly cabbage
12 Something to lend (2 wds.)
14 Rock's Bon —
15 Get better
16 Ridiculous
17 Hairy animals
18 — spumante
19 Presage
21 Went by water
23 Pilot's dir.
24 Sunbeam
25 Opposite of post-
26 Christie detective
30 Danny or Peter
32 Not quite right
33 Snoozed a bit
37 "Cheerio!" (hyph.)
38 Danish islands
39 Earthenware jar
40 Less deep
42 Coral reef locale
43 Imitated Bossy
44 Flammable gas
45 Part of GPA
48 "— take forever!"
49 Quid pro —
50 Square-dance attire
52 A Leo
57 Helm position
58 Cajun veggie
60 Unfettered
61 Holly tree
62 Must have
63 Spew lava
64 Scream and shout
65 Muffle
66 Ocean-going bird

Down
1 Very thin model
2 Livy's year
3 Nonsense writer
4 Carol of "Taxi"
5 Easy gait
6 Hail, to Caesar
7 Miami's — Bay
8 Genghis —
9 Early moralist
10 Afterward
11 Slur together
13 Won't go along
14 Greenish gem
20 Countdown number
22 Jean Auel heroine
24 Machine part
26 Tatamis
27 Memsahib's nanny
28 Ms. Moreno
29 Choir selection
30 Revealed
31 Historical period
33 Quoth, like a raven
34 Courtroom bargain
35 Panache
36 Guy like Hamlet
38 Kind of hot dog
41 Burglar's "key"
42 Filmdom's Lawrence
44 U.K. locale
45 Robin of balladry
46 Pancho —
47 In leaf
49 Dorm view
51 Immediately following
52 Remnant
53 Geologic sample
54 Rush —
55 NFL broadcaster
56 Solar plexus
59 Large parrot

Yesterday's answer



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Tanaka, Yanks roughed up on Opening Day 2015

MLB. Toronto plated five runs in the third and ran away from the Yankees.

A season ago, Masahiro Tanaka did not allow four or more runs in one game until July. The start to his second big league season did not go as smoothly. The Yankees ace gave up four earned runs off of five hits in 4.0 innings of work Monday as New York fell to AL East rival Toronto, 6-1, on Opening Day 2015 at Yankee Stadium.

The Blue Jays garnered five runs off of Tanaka in the third inning, highlighted by Russell Martin driving in Devon Travis and Jose Reyes on a single to right and a two-run home run by Edwin Encarnacion.

Mets victorious

The Mets are 1-0 on the season thanks to the sloppy play of the Nationals. The Mets won, 3-1, Monday.

- Washington's **Max Scherzer** was phenomenal, owning a no-hitter into the sixth, but the Mets took advantage of a pair of errors by Nationals shortstop **Ian Desmond** to grab the Opening Day win in D.C.
- **Lucas Duda's** two-run single with two outs in the sixth inning gave the Mets a 2-1 lead and **Travis d'Arnaud's** RBI triple in the seventh gave New York insurance.
- **Bartolo Colon** was terrific for the Mets, allowing just one earned run on three hits in six innings of work.

The Yankees offense was quiet on the day, registering only three hits. Brett Gardner scored the only Yankees run via a homer to right in the sixth.

Drew Hutchison (6.0 IP, 3 H, 1 ER, 3 K, 1.50 ERA) picked up the win for the Jays while Tanaka (4.0 IP, 5 H, 4 ER, 6 K, 9.00 ERA) took the loss.

It was the first time the Yankees played a game without Derek Jeter, Mariano Rivera, Andy Pettitte or Jorge Posada on the roster since 1995.

The Yankees and Jays are off Tuesday before continuing their three-game series Wednesday in the Bronx (7 p.m., YES). Michael Pineda will get the ball for the Yanks while Toronto will turn to R.A. Dickey.

MATT BURKE
@Burke_Metro
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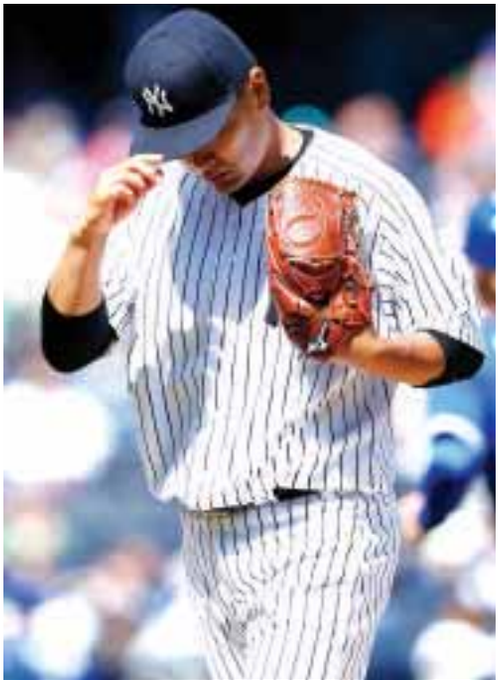


Masahiro Tanaka lasted just four innings Monday. / GETTY IMAGES

MLB. Baseball season is officially underway

1 Yankees players bow their heads during the singing of the National Anthem on Monday at Yankee Stadium. The Yanks fell to Toronto, 6-1.

2 David Wright and the 2015 New York Mets are introduced to the Nationals home crowd in D.C.

3 Metal detectors were featured at all gates at Yankee Stadium on Monday as a result of Major League Baseball, working with the Department of Homeland Security, beefing up security measures at all MLB games in 2015.

4 Washington shortstop Ian Desmond proved to be the goat for the Nats on Monday as he dropped a popup off the bat of Wright and later short-hopped a throw to first base. Both miscues led to Mets runs.

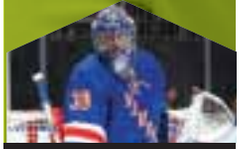
ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

3 SPORTS

MLB

A-Rod hears applause

After being blasted by boo birds for so long, Alex Rodriguez was showered with cheers by the Yankee Stadium crowd on Opening Day. The 48,469 in the ballpark Monday were a pro-A-Rod crowd as the famed "Bleacher Creatures" even included the DH in their first inning roll call. Typically, the cheer is for Yankees playing the field only. Rodriguez tipped his cap to the crowd from the top step of the dugout when his name was called. Batting seventh in the Yankees lineup, A-Rod had a hit and a walk on the day.



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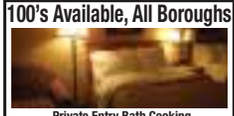

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